Besides, a study conducted by NCERT in year 2000 on State's policies on incentive schemes in primary schools and their contribution to girls' participation, also covered the Mid-day meal Scheme in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Natdu. the report states that the noon-meal scheme of Tamil Nadu and supply of foodgrains under Mid-day Meal Scheme in Uttar Pradesh have helped improve the enrolment and retention of girls in schools.

Commercialization of education

367. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing trend in commercialization of education; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to contain this trend, in the light of recent amendment to the Constitution, providing education to all?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, as updated in 1992, while encouraging non-governmental and voluntary efforts including social activist groups in the field of education, calls for steps to prevent commercialization of education. Several schemes of the Centre/States encourage the participation of NGOs/VAs to supplement governmental efforts. The State Governments have their own regulatory laws to regulate different aspects of education at various levels including matters like admission, fee structure, recruitment of teachers, management of institutions, transaction of curriculum, setting up of new institutions etc. At the Central level, the statutory bodies *viz.,* University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) ensure proper maintenance of norms and standards in Higher Education, Technical and Management Education and Teacher Education respectively, in the light of directions contained in several judicial pronouncements with regard to fees structure, charging of capitation fee, admission policy etc.